



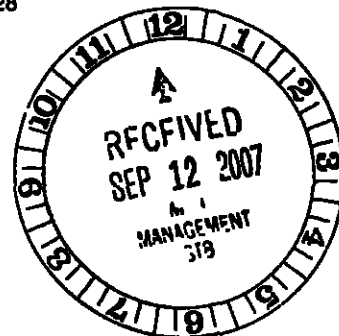
**LAWRENCE KESTENBAUM**  
**COUNTY CLERK / REGISTER OF DEEDS**

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220243



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO**

Surface Transportation Board (10)  
Karl Morell, Counsel, Ball Janik, LLP  
John Dingell, United States Representative  
Timothy Walberg, United States Representative  
Randy Richardville, State Senator  
Liz Brater, State Senator  
Pam Byrnes, State Representative  
Rebekah Warren, State Representative  
Alma Smith, State Representative  
Kathy Angerer, State Representative  
Carmine Palumbo, SEMCOG  
Tern Blackmore, WATS

**ENTERED**  
**Office of Proceedings**

SEP 12 2007

**Part of**  
**Public Record**

**FROM:**

Jason Brooks  
Deputy Clerk  
Washtenaw County

**DATE**

September 6, 2007

**SUBJECT**

**Resolution 07-0158**

This document is in reference to SIB Finance Docket Numbers 35063\_0 and 35065\_0. Enclosed is a certified copy of resolution 07-0158, passed by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting on September 5, 2007. The resolution is calling for evaluation and assurance of long term passenger rail preservation and enhancement in the context of formation of Michigan Central Railroad and acquisition of former Norfolk Southern Track from Kalamazoo to Ypsilanti. If you need additional certified copies please contact me at (734) 222-6655.

jb

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**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR EVALUATION AND ASSURANCES OF LONG TERM PASSENGER RAIL PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF FORMATION OF MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILROAD AND ACQUISITION OF FORMER NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRACK FROM KALAMAZOO TO YPSILANTI**

**WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
September 5, 2007**

**WHEREAS the Michigan Central Railroad, a partnership between the WATCO Companies and Norfolk Southern, is seeking to lease or purchase the former Norfolk Southern Rail Corridor from Kalamazoo to Ypsilanti, and**

**WHEREAS this rail corridor is critical to the economic growth and prosperity of the Washtenaw County region; and**

**WHEREAS the viability of a short line freight oriented model along this corridor must be carefully balanced with that of passenger rail and proposed commuter rail transportation, and**

**WHEREAS any decrease to the efficiency of passenger train travel may have adverse impacts through increased carbon emissions and other environmental impacts due to the use of less efficient passenger transportation modes; and**

**WHEREAS preservation of the current level of Amtrak service between Detroit and Chicago that utilizes this corridor should be a minimum goal while corridor enhancements to encourage expanded high speed Amtrak service along this corridor is the preferred alternative; and**

**WHEREAS Washtenaw County is working toward the formation of a regional rail authority to support the development of new passenger rail service in Washtenaw County;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners strongly urges the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to carefully and completely analyze the financial and operational potential of the Michigan Central Railroad to adequately maintain the corridor under consideration, and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners encourage that conditions and/or requirements be applied to ensure, at a minimum, the existing level of Amtrak service is maintained; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners strongly recommend that the STB recognize the importance of passenger rail service to the long term economic viability of Washtenaw County**

and the State of Michigan and accordingly ensure that any sale or lease of track enhances passenger service to the levels planned by The Midwest Regional Rail Initiative and embraced by the Michigan Department of Transportation Long Range Transportation Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT any sale or lease of this corridor include conditions that require the continued work toward high speed rail in this corridor and collaboration with SEMCOG, regional rail authorities and/or other entities seeking to expand and improve passenger rail programs in the State of Michigan.

COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A	COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A	COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A
Bergman	X			Ping Mills	X			Schwartz	X		
Grewal	X			Quimet	X			Sizemore	X		
Gunn	X			Peterson	X			Smith			X
Irwin	X			Lovejoy Roe	X						

CLERK/REGISTER'S CERTIFICATE - CERTIFIED COPY

ROLL CALL VOTE: TOTALS

10 0 1

STATE OF MICHIGAN )

COUNTY OF WASHTENAW)

I, Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register of said County of Washtenaw and Clerk of Circuit Court for said County do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners at a session held at the County Administration Building in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007, as it appears of record in my office.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at Ann Arbor, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2007.

LAWRENCE KESTENBAUM, Clerk/Register

BY:

Deputy Clerk



Res. No. 07-0158